GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:583
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2002
COCONUT GROWERS IN CRISIS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the coconut growers in Kerala are facing serious crisis due to the unprecedented fall in prices of coconut, copra and coconut oil due to the increased import of these items; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to resume procurement of copra under the Minimum Support Price Scheme through NAFED?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b): Government of India is aware that the price of coconut, copra and coconut oil has fallen in recent years and one of the reasons for this is large scale import of palmolien in the country. The Government, however, has taken steps to increase the import duty upto 85% on RBD pamolien and 65% on crude palm oil. Government has already procured 85,410 MTs of Copra in Kerala during 2000 season. The procurement of Copra during the 2001 season has already commenced.